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**FEB 06 2006**

**PATENTS**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)		
	)		
<b>Stephen A. Thomas et al.</b>	)	Art Unit:	<b>2633</b>
	)		
Serial No.: <b>10/045,652</b>	)	Confirmation No.:	<b>1907</b>
	)		
Filed: <b>October 26, 2001</b>	)	Examiner:	<b>A. Bello</b>
	)		
For: <b>Method and System for Processing</b>	)		
<b>Downstream Packets of an Optical</b>	)		
<b>Network</b>	)		

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 6, 2006

Responsive to the Final Official Office Action mailed on October 5, 2005 and with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), petition, and one-month extension of time fee to extend the due date to February 6, 2006, the Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for the Examiner's consideration.

**AMENDMENT**

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Attn: Examiner A. Bello, GAU 2633, Facsimile No. (571) 273-8300 on February 6, 2006.

  
Steven P. Wigmore, Reg. No. 40,447